

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (Previously presented) A method of making a coated article, the method comprising:

providing a glass substrate;

ion beam milling substantially an entire surface of the glass substrate so as to reduce the thickness of the substrate by at least about 2 Å, wherein during the ion beam milling an ion beam is directed toward the glass substrate so as to hit the substrate at an angle of from about 40-60 degrees in order to mill the substrate; and

depositing a coating on the substrate over at least a portion of the ion beam milled surface thereof.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein said ion beam milling is performed so as to reduce the thickness of substantially the entire substrate by from about 4-20 Å.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 39, wherein the ion beam milling is performed using an ion energy of from about 1500-2000 eV.

42. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said coating comprises diamond-like carbon.

43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein said diamond-like carbon is deposited directly on the glass substrate so as to contact the glass substrate.

44. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the diamond-like carbon is hydrogenated.

45. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said milling is performed to an extent so as to increase scratch resistance of the coated article by at least a factor of two.

46. (New) A method of making a coated article, the method comprising:
providing a glass substrate;
ion beam milling substantially an entire surface of the glass substrate so as to reduce the thickness of the substrate by at least about 4 Å; and
depositing a coating on the substrate over at least a portion of the ion beam milled surface thereof.

47. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein the ion beam milling is performed using an ion energy of from about 1500-2000 eV.

48. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said coating comprises diamond-like carbon.

49. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein said diamond-like carbon is deposited directly on the glass substrate so as to contact the glass substrate.

50. (New) The method of claim 48, wherein the diamond-like carbon is hydrogenated.

51. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said milling is performed to an extent so as to increase scratch resistance of the coated article by at least a factor of two.